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Title: Need to expedite the survey work for upgradation of National Highway No. 17 in Goa.

SHRI FRANCISCO COSME SARDINHA (MORMUGAO): Sir, an important stretch of the National Highway No. 17 passing from Patradevi to Polem inGoa is pending upgradation for many years. In fact, considering that Goa is an internationally known tourist destination, the upgradation of this stretch of the National Highway should have been taken up much earlier and included in the Golden Quadrilateral Project.

It is learnt that Goa stretch has been included in the third phase but the survey work has not yet begun.

On this stretch there are three bridges namely Galigibaga, Talpana and a new bridge at Zuari which is a link between South and North Goa. The hon. Members of this House who have visited Goa will bear me out that if this bridge breaks, then the link will be cut off.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: You can only read the text which is approved.

SHRI FRANCISCO COSME SARDINHA : All right, Sir.

These bridges are closed every now and then for repairs. It is pretty old and in case God forbid it collapses, South Goa will be cut off from North Goa and it will be a disaster for the State of Goa.

I, therefore, urge upon the Ministry of Shipping, Road Transport and Highways to expedite the survey work and commence the work on the three bridges, that is, Talpana, Galgibaga and Zuari at the earliest.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri N.S.V. Chitthan - Not present

Shri Iqbal Ahmed Saradgi - Not present

Shri Virendra Kumar - Not present